

Members

Rep. Steve Heim, Chairperson
Rep. Dave Wolkins
Rep. Ryan Dvorak
Rep. Matt Pierce
Sen. Beverly Gard
Sen. Lindel Hume
Sen. Marvin Riegsecker
Sen. Karen Tallian
Dwayne Burke
Ellen Tobias
Ray Chattin
Dave Wyeth
Thomas Easterly
Steve Murray
Sara Davis
John Hardwick
Art Umble
Calvin Davidson



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SERVICE COUNCIL

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MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: August 18, 2006
Meeting Time: 10:00 A.M.
Meeting Place: Indiana State Library Building, 315
W. Ohio St., History Reference
Room (Room 211)
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 1

Members Present: Rep. Steve Heim, Chairperson; Rep. Dave Wolkins; Rep. Ryan Dvorak; Rep. Matt Pierce; Sen. Beverly Gard; Sen. Karen Tallian; Dwayne Burke; Ellen Tobias; Ray Chattin; Dave Wyeth; Thomas Easterly; Steve Murray; Sara Davis; John Hardwick; Art Umble; Calvin Davidson.

Members Absent: Sen. Lindel Hume; Sen. Marvin Riegsecker.

1. Call to Order

Rep. Heim called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

¹ Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

2. Commissioner's Report

Tom Easterly, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) presented the Commissioner's Report (Exhibit #1), which includes updates on the following topics:

- 2006 environmental legislation
- IDEM's environmental goals to protect the environment and increase personal income
- air quality issues
- IDEM permit issuance
- percent of activities meeting regulations
- enforcement actions
- possible 2007 legislation
- major regulatory initiatives
- rules in progress

Commissioner Easterly addressed questions from the members concerning the use of emergency rulemaking, IDEM staffing levels, and funding for the clean manufacturing technology board.

3. Mercury Switch Removal and Recovery Program

Dr. William Beranek, president of the Indiana Environmental Institute, presented a report (Exhibits #2 and #3) developed by a work group consisting of various private sector and public sector representatives concerning the Indiana mercury switch removal and recovery program. The report addresses the following topics:

- types of switches covered by the program
- features of the program
- potential amount of mercury recovery
- possible expiration of the program based on the recent agreement for creation of a national program
- issues to be addressed by IDEM in implementing the program
- whether recovery of mercury from anti-lock brake systems should be added to the program
- possible indemnification from environmental liability of switch removers by auto manufacturers
- possible increased reporting requirements that would allow better evaluation of the program

Dr. Beranek addressed questions from the members concerning the availability of data on numbers of mercury switches to be removed and the reason for expiration of the program after ten years. Sen. Gard commented on the features of and funding for the newly created national program. Rep. Wolkins commented on the determinations IDEM will need to make to implement the program.

4. Waste Tires

Dr. Beranek presented a report (Exhibits #4 and #5) concerning waste tires, which addresses the following topics:

- the current status of the market for waste tires
- possible encouragement by the state of the use of waste tires

potential uses of waste tires
policy directions to explore

Dr. Beranek addressed questions from the members concerning collection of the statutory new tire fee and the availability of information on waste tire processors and users in the state.

5. EQSC Study Topics

Rep. Heim advised the members of potential study topics (Exhibit #6) and solicited additional topics. Suggestions were made to study the use of municipal districts to address septic system issues and the issue of peak oil.

6. Subcommittee

Rep. Heim asked for volunteers from the membership to serve on a subcommittee to study the positive and negative aspects of enacting legislation that would prohibit rules adopted under IC 13 from being more stringent than corresponding provisions of federal law.

7. Next Meeting

Rep. Heim indicated that Lake Michigan water quality and regional sewer districts will be addressed at the next meeting at 10:00 AM, September 7, Conference Room C, Indiana Government Center South.

8. Adjournment

Rep. Heim adjourned the meeting at 12:10 PM.